



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/539,430 | 03/30/2000 | Ken Kishida | 04329.2285 | 8141 |

22852 7590 10/06/2003

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER
LLP
1300 I STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

LONG, HEATHER R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/539,430

Applicant(s)

KISHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Heather R Long

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 9-11, 13, 15-16, 18, 20 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8, 12, 14, 17, 19 and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

1. Applicant has not given a post office address anywhere in the application papers as required by 37 CFR 1.33(a), which was in effect at the time of filing of the oath or declaration. A statement over applicant's signature providing a complete post office address is required.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because there reference character "78c" in Fig. 4 is used twice on two different objects and from the disclosure the one should be --76c--.

3. The drawings are objected to because in Figs. 14 and 15 the video capture controller is given the reference number "233", however in the disclosure it was stated to be "223".

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "31" has been used to designate both the speaker and the infrared port. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
- a. On page 12, line 8 the leg portions are referred to as reference character "37", when it should be --38--.
 - b. On page 14, line 24 the guide ribs are referred to as reference character "72", when it should be --73--.
 - c. On page 19, line 9 the side walls are referred to as reference character "76" when they should be --76c--.
 - d. On page 22, line 19 the shutter button is referred to as reference character "116" when it should be --108--.
 - e. On page 30, line 6 the figures that are referred to are "Figs. 7, 8, and 13, however it should be Figs. --7,8, and 11--.
- Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suso et al. (U.S. Patent 6,069, 648).

Regarding claim 1, Suso et al. discloses in Figure 1a an electronic apparatus comprising: an apparatus main body (2) having a rear end portion provided with a pair of hinge portions (3); a display unit (4) rotatably supported by the hinge portions (3); and a camera provided at a central portion of a rear end of the apparatus main body (2) between the pair of hinge portions (3), for picking up an image of an object, wherein the camera is arranged to be adjustable in its position about a central axis of the camera main body substantially coaxial with a rotation axis of the display unit (col. 2, lines 53-65).

Regarding claim 2, Suso et al. discloses in Fig. 5b an electronic apparatus wherein the camera comprises a substantially cylindrical camera main body having a lens (9) provided on an outer periphery, and a base portion supporting the camera main body to be rotatable about the central axis of the camera main body; and the camera is attached to the apparatus main body while the central axis of the camera main body is positioned substantially coaxially with the rotation axis of the display unit (col. 2, lines 59-65).

Regarding claim 4, Suso et al. discloses in Figs. 5b and 8b an electronic apparatus wherein the camera is rotatable between a position at which the camera faces a front side of the apparatus main body and a position at which the camera faces a rear side of the apparatus main body, in a range of 180 degrees, and has a detection switch detecting that the camera has been rotated toward a predetermined rotation

position; and the apparatus main body has a control section for turning image data picked up by the camera upside down in accordance with the detection of the detection switch (col. 7, lines 23-36).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suso et al. (U.S. Patent 6,069,648).

Regarding claim 3, Suso et al. discloses in Fig. 7 an electronic apparatus wherein the apparatus main body (2) includes an upper surface portion provided with a keyboard (5), and an independent shutter button (19f) provided on the display unit (col. 5, lines 58-60). Claim 3 differs from Suso et al. in that the claim further requires the electronic apparatus to have an independent shutter button provided on the upper surface portion between the keyboard and the hinge portions. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the shutter button in Suso et al. by putting it on the upper surface portion between the keyboard and hinge positions so as to allow easier access to the shutter button by placing all the keys on the main body.

10. Claims 5, 6, 10, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isashi (U.S. Patent 5,719,799) in view of Suso et al. (U.S. Patent 6,069,648) and further in view of Parulski et al. (U.S. Patent 5,475,411).

Regarding claim **5**, Isashi discloses an electronic apparatus system comprising: an electronic apparatus including: an apparatus main body (5) having a rear end portion provided with a pair of hinge portions (6), a display unit (3) rotatably supported by the hinge (6) and a camera installed in the hinge (6) (col. 14, line 63 – col. 15, line 16, and col. 15, lines 36-47). However, Isashi is lacking the teachings of having a detachable camera provided at a central portion of a rear end of the apparatus main body and positioned between the pair of hinge portions; and an extension adapter for connecting the camera detached from the apparatus main body to the apparatus main body, and arranging the camera to be remote from the apparatus main body.

Referring to the Suso et al. reference, Suso et al. discloses an electronic apparatus wherein a camera is provided at a central portion of a rear end of the apparatus main body (2) and positioned between the pair of hinge portions (3) (col.2, lines 53-65).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Isashi in view of Suso et al. and placed the camera in the central portion of the hinge in order to gain a broader range of picture taking capabilities. However, Isashi modified by Suso et al. differs from claim 5 in that it is lacking the teachings of the camera being detachable and having an extension adapter for connecting the camera detached from the apparatus main body to the

apparatus main body, and arranging the camera to be remote from the apparatus main body.

Referring to the Parulski et al. reference, Parulski et al. discloses a detachable camera (20) and an extension adapter (70 and 24) for connecting the camera (20) detached from the apparatus main body (10) to the apparatus main body (10), and arranging the camera (20) to be remote from the apparatus main body (10) (col. 6, lines 53-65).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the camera as used by Isashi in view of Suso et al. and made it detachable along with having an extension adapter for it so as to allow the camera to be used some distance from the computer.

Regarding claim 6, Parulski et al. discloses an electronic apparatus system wherein the apparatus main body includes a camera attachment portion, which the camera (20) is detachably attached; and the extension adapter (70 and 24) includes a main body-side adapter (24) which is capable of being attached, instead of the camera (20), to the camera attachment portion (12), a camera-side adapter to which the camera (20) detached from the apparatus main body (10) is to be attached, and a connection cable (70) mutually connecting the main body-side adapter (24) and the camera-side adapter (col. 6, lines 53-65). However, Parulski et al. is lacking the teachings of having the camera attachment portion defined at the central portion of the rear end.

Isashi in view of Suso et al. discloses a camera that is attached at the central portion of the rear end. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Parulski et al. and Isashi in view of Suso et al. in order to have allowed the camera provided at the central portion of the rear end to be used some distance from the computer.

Regarding claim **10**, Suso et al. discloses an electronic apparatus system wherein the camera comprises a substantially cylindrical camera main body having a lens (9) provided on an outer periphery, and a base portion (2) rotatably supporting the camera main body about a central axis of the camera main body; and the camera is attached to the apparatus main body (2) while the central axis of the camera main body is substantially coaxial with the rotation axis of the display unit (1) (col. 2, lines 47-65).

Regarding claim **11**, Suso et al. discloses in Fig. 7 an electronic apparatus system wherein the apparatus main body (2) comprises an upper surface portion provided with a keyboard (5), and an independent shutter button (19f) (col. 2, lines 53-68 and col. 5, lines 58-60). However, Suso et al. is lacking the teachings of an independent shutter button provided at the upper surface portion between the keyboard and the hinge portion along with the camera having a camera-side shutter button.

Referring to the Parulski et al. reference, Parulski et al. discloses a detachable camera (20) with a camera-side shutter button (34) (col. 6, lines 41-46).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the camera disclosed by Suso et al. with the teachings of Parulski et al. and have added a shutter button on the camera-side in order to have been able to use the camera independent of the computer. It further

would have been obvious to move the shutter button as disclosed by Suso et al. closer to the keyboard in order to gained easier access to it.

11. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. (U.S. Patent 5,417,441) as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Parulski et al. (U.S. Patent 6,366,316).

Regarding claim **9**, Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. differs from claim 9 in that the claim further requires that the extension adapter be provided with a tripod detachably attached to the camera-side adapter.

Referring to the Parulski et al. reference (6,366,316), Parulski et al. discloses in Fig. 3a an electronic apparatus system wherein the extension adapter is provided with a tripod detachably attached to the camera-side adapter.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the extension adapter used by Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. (5,417,441) by using the teachings provided by Parulski et al. (6,366,316) to have added a tripod to the camera-side extension adapter to make sure the camera would be stable enough to take pictures.

12. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Anderson (U.S. Patent 5,973,734).

Regarding claim **13**, Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. discloses an electronic apparatus system wherein the camera is rotatable between a position at which the camera faces a front side of the apparatus main body and a

position at which the camera faces a rear side of the apparatus main body, in a range of about 180 degrees (Suso et al., Fig. 5b). However, these references are lacking the teachings that the camera has a direction sensor for detecting that the camera has been rotated to a predetermined position; and the apparatus main body has a control section for turning image data picked up by this camera upside down according to the detection of the direction sensor while the camera is directly connected to the apparatus main body.

Referring to the Anderson reference, Anderson discloses an electronic apparatus system wherein the camera has a detection sensor for detecting that the camera has been rotated to a predetermined rotation position; and the apparatus main body has a control section for turning the image data picked up by the camera upside down according to the detection of the direction sensor while the camera is directly connected to the apparatus main body (col. 3, lines 28-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Isashi, Suso et al., and Parulski et al. with Anderson in order to have provided easier viewing image of a picture that was taken upside down by providing an upright picture on the display unit.

13. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Shin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,160,321).

Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. differs from claim 15 in that the claim further requires an electronic apparatus system wherein the apparatus main

body has a pull-up voltage circuit; and the camera has a ground terminal connected to the pull-up voltage circuit through a signal line when the camera is connected directly to the apparatus main body or connected to the apparatus main body through the extension adapter.

Shin et al. discloses an electronic apparatus system wherein the apparatus main body has a pull-up voltage circuit; and the camera has a ground terminal connected to the pull-up voltage circuit through a signal line when the camera is connected directly to the apparatus main body or connected to the apparatus main body through the extension adapter (col. 2 lines 44-56).

Therefore it would have been obvious to at the time the invention was to have modified the teachings of Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. and added the teachings by Shin et al. in order to have the computer supply the power to the camera.

14. Claims 16, 18, 20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Cocca (U.S. Patent 5,387,955).

Regarding claims **16** and **20**, Cocca discloses a remote controller (22) detachably connected to the camera (10) for remote controlling the electronic apparatus (col. 2, lines 31-45). However, the remote controller is lacking being connected to the apparatus main body.

Referring to Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al., they disclose connecting the camera to the computer through an extension adapter as applied to claim 5 above.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the electronic apparatus system as disclosed by Isashi in view of Suso et al. in view of Parulski et al. with Cocca in order to have added a remote controller for allowing the camera to be used at an even greater distance from the computer than just the extension adapter could provide.

Regarding claims **18** and **22**, Cocca discloses an electronic apparatus system wherein the remote controller (22) comprises a shutter button (S) provided at the controller main body (22) (col. 3, lines 26-29).

Allowable Subject Matter

15. Claims 7-8, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

16. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. Prior art does not teach or fairly suggest an electronic apparatus system wherein:

a. claim 7: the apparatus main body has a main body-side connector exposed to the camera attachment portion, and a guide section for guiding attachment/detachment of the camera and the main body side adapter to and from the

camera attachment portion; the camera has a camera-side connector connected to the main body-side connector when the camera is attached to the camera attachment portion, and a holding member for engaging with the apparatus main body so as to detachably hold the camera in the camera attachment portion when the camera is attached to the camera attachment portion, and for engaging with the camera-side adapter so as to detachably hold the camera in the camera-side adapter when the camera is attached to the camera-side adapter.

b. claim **8**: the main body-side adapter has a first adapter-side connector which is to be connected to the main body-side connector when the main body-side adapter is attached to the camera attachment portion, and a holding member for engaging with the apparatus main body so as to detachably hold the main body-side adapter in the camera attachment portion when the main body-side adapter is attached to the camera attachment portion; and the camera-side adapter has a guide section for guiding attachment/detachment of the camera, and a second adapter-side connector to which the camera-side connector is connected when the camera is attached to the camera side adapter.

c. claim **12**: the camera-side shutter button is arranged at a position at which the camera-side shutter button is concealed in the apparatus main body when the camera is attached to the camera attachment portion of the apparatus main body.

d. claim **14**: the extension adapter is formed to turn the direction sensor and the control section into a non-connection state when the camera is connected to the apparatus main body through the extension adapter.

e. claim **17**: the remote controller comprises a controller main body, and a connection cable extending from the controller main body and having an extended end detachably connected to the apparatus main body; and the controller main body comprises a plurality of operation dials for selecting and determining operation functions and operation modes of the electronic apparatus, and a display section for displaying an item selected and determined by the plurality of operation dials.

f. claim **19**: the controller main body comprises a connection terminal connectable with headphones.

g. claim **21**: the remote controller comprises a controller main body, and a connection cable extending from the controller main body and having extended end detachably connected to the apparatus main body; and the controller main body comprises a plurality of operation dials for selecting and determining operation functions and operation modes of the electronic apparatus, and a display section displaying an item selected and determined by the plurality of operation dials.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather R Long whose telephone number is 703-305-0681. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm, and every other Fri.: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone

Application/Control Number: 09/539,430
Art Unit: 2615

Page 15

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

hrl
September 29, 2003


NGOC-YEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER